Export of rice

5297. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated the 9th April, 2002 under the caption "High-quality subsidized FCI rice being exported at reduced price";

(b) if so, whether in the report, it has been pointed out that trading houses sold at $13-15/t lower than the global rate;

(c) if so, the countries with whom such low prices contracts have been signed;

(d) the reasons for the same; and

(e) to what extent these reports have been found true?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) (a) and (b) Yes sir.

(c) to (e) The infromation is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan from Sugar Development Fund

5298. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received 24 proposals of the Co-operative Sugar Factories recommended by the Government of Maharashtra for loan from the Sugar Development Fund in 1999; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) (a) No, Sir. Only two proposals for loan for cane development from Sugar Development Fund in respect of (i) M/s Malegaon Sahakari

Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Distt. Pune and (ii) M/s Yeshwant Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Theur, Distt. Pune were received from Government of Maharashtra during January to December 1999.

(b) M/s Malegaon Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd. has since been sanctioned a loan of Rs. 227.52 lakhs on 26.06.2000 out of which the first instalment of Rs. 113.76 lakhs has been released on 8.11.2000. The release of second instalment of Rs. 113.76 lakhs is under process. M/s Yeshwant Sahkari Sakhar Karakhana Ltd. has also been sanctioned a loan of Rs. 270.45 lakhs on 11.07.2001 disbursable in two instalments. The Tripartite agreement was signed on 23.01.2002. Other formalities *viz.* furnishing of bank guarantee and a proof of deposit of 10% margin money in a no lien bank account are yet to be completed by the sugar unit for disbursement of the first instalment.

Construction of godowns in Uttar Pradesh

5299. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial grants/assistance given to Uttar Pradesh for constructing foodgrains storage godowns and to develop public distribution system infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds granted to the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) (a) and (b) Financial assistance of Rs. 916.80 lakhs has been sanctioned to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years for construction of 20 godowns with 39700 MTs storage capacity under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Construction of Godowns' as per the details given below:—

Financial Year	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)	No. of godowns
1999-2000	668.40	12
2000-2001	248.40	8
2001-2002	0.00	0
TOTAL	916.80	20